



Harker Heights Elementary School

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Principal: Natalie Kirshner

Parent Family Engagement Policy 2023- 2024

At Harker Heights Elementary, our mission is to provide an outstanding school where all members of the community realize that academics, character, and relationships are equally important for overall success. Our vision is to pursue our dreams with character, relationships, and academics to achieve our goals. This is a common vision of the entire campus at Harker Heights Elementary. First, we are strong! We have a strong history within the community. We will overcome the obstacles in our lives. By keeping true to our vision, we hope to prepare the path for solid lifelong learners who are well-rounded contributors to society.

Staff Awareness: Each school year, the staff receives training each school year to emphasize the value of parent and family member contributions at school. We highlight how to maintain communication and work to build a partnership between staff and parents to ensure that all students are successful in their learning. We encourage parent and family participation on campus. Our staff is knowledgeable of the various parent programs and how they can encourage parent and family participation.

Annual Title 1 Meeting: Our annual, Title I meeting is held in September of every school year. All parents and family members are encouraged to attend. At this meeting, we will provide information about Title I guidelines, our Campus Improvement Plan, the Parent Engagement Policy, the Home-School Compact, Parents Right to Know and how to be involved in your child's education. In addition, you will receive information about curriculum, academic assessments, and our latest STAAR scores.

Site Based Decision Making Committee (SBDM): At Harker Heights Elementary, we will have the SBDM Committee that will meet at least six times during the school year. The committee consists of elected members, administrative staff, and special interest groups. The SBDM committee will include at least one parent representative, a community member, a district representative, and a business representative. The committee will provide input on the Campus Improvement Plan (CIP) and assist in making decisions on how Title I funds are spent. We value your opinions and welcome all parents who would like to serve on this committee.

Title I Program Evaluation: Our Title I program is evaluated several times a year by our Site Based Decision Making Committee, which must include at least one parent representative. SBDM provides input on our Campus Improvement Plan and assists in making decisions about how Title I funds are spent. If you would like to serve on SBDM, please contact the school at

254-336-2050. We value your opinions and welcome all parents who would like to serve. For parents unable to participate in SBDM, an annual evening meeting is held for the purpose of evaluating the plan and gaining parent input on changes for the upcoming year.

Volunteer Orientation: At the start of every new school year, and throughout the year, our volunteer coordinator conducts a volunteer orientation to outline KISD policies. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Harker Heights Elementary at 254-336-2050 for further information.

Communication: We believe communication between home and school is a two-way street. We stay in touch with parents and family members in several ways: student planners, weekly take-home folders, fliers, campus marquee, SMORE newsletters, parent teacher conferences, HHES campus website, HHES Facebook page, Connect-Ed automated phone calls, notes, letters, and emails. We have our staff walk the students outside each afternoon to build the face-to-face ongoing positive communication. We also have one required parent teacher conference in the Fall and one in the Spring.

Parents and family members may contact us through phone calls, notes, letters, emails, weekly take-home folders, and student planners. We strongly encourage parents to contact the student's teacher when there is a concern so that we can work together for the good of the student. Written materials will be sent home in both English and Spanish.

Parent Family Member Learning: The state standards are continually changing. Our Monthly Family Nights will target ways to help parents, teachers and children work together with the curriculum standards for each grade level. We will help you understand the challenging Texas Essential Knowledge & Skills, give you information about STAAR and KISD assessments, explain how to monitor your child's progress, and how to work with teachers as a team to help your child. Additional information will be available to assist parents with staying current with technology to include sessions on how to use the programs, as well as sending hands-on activities and games home for extra practice.

Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Home-School Compact: The Harker Heights Elementary Family Engagement Policy and Home-School Compact will be reviewed by staff and parents each spring. Parents and family member input is a required part of this process. The parent policy is also made available during our Annual Title I meeting and is also available on our campus website. Your child's teacher will contact you soon to arrange a conference to discuss the Home-School Compact and to give you more information about your child's achievement.

KISD Parent and Family Member Classes: KISD offers classes free of charge for English as a Second Language, computers, and GED preparation. Empowered Parents workshops and the Parent Academy are also available. In addition, parents may attend and participate in the KISD Parent Advisory Council. Contact the Special Programs Department for more information at 254- 336-0240.